

ABSTRACT

The present invention discloses a paper coated with a new coating formulation. The coating formulation comprises a stable pigment slurry prepared without an acid-based dispersant. The coating formulation may be applied to the paper using a variety of methods: In general, an aqueous cationic pigment slurry is prepared comprising an alumina pigment slurry, a nonionic wetting agent, and a cationic interfacial modifier (dispersant). The aqueous cationic pigment slurry is then added to one or more additional conventional coating ingredients, such as binders, pigments, and additives to form a coating formulation. The coating formulation is then applied to at least one side of a paper and the coating is mechanically treated.